

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Technical Advisory Committee

February 28, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Contact: Guangyu Wang, 231-576-6639

Attendance

TAC Members

Steve Bay (Chair)	Present
Mas Dojiri (Vice Chair)	Absent
Rich Ambrose	Absent
John Dorsey	Present
Phyllis Grifman	Present
Rainer Hoenicke	Present
Karen Martin	Absent
Dan Pondella	Present
Eric Sein	Present

SMBNEP Staff Present

Tom Ford,
Guangyu Wang
Karina Johnston
Emily Blum

Members of the Public

Erica Yelensky, US EPA (via phone)
Phil Markle, LACSD

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Steve Bay called the meeting to order at 9:45 am. Round robin introductions followed.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. General Business

- a. Order of Agenda: Guangyu Wang recommended moving item #6 before #5. The change was approved.
- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved. Moved by: John Dorsey, Seconded by: Rainer Hoenicke.
- c. Reports from the Chair, Subcommittees, and Staff
Steve Bay gave an update on the last Governing Board meeting, which included reappointment of TAC members. Wang gave an update on the announcement made at the Governing Board meeting regarding the availability of the remaining Prop. 12 grant fund and answered member questions.

Guangyu Wang invited Tom Ford to give an update on activities carried out by the Bay Foundation in accordance to the SMBNEP annual work plan. Tom informed the Committee about the new internship positions provided under the Coastal Research Institute (CRI) and answered member questions.

d. Member Comment

Eric Stein informed the Committee about a new SAV monitoring program initiated in San Diego Bay.

Rainer Hoenicke informed the Committee about the program performance measures being developed by the Bay Delta Steward Council.

Phyllis Grifman informed the Committee about the Knauss Fellowship and Sea Grant fellowship.

4. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Guangyu Wang informed the Committee that Steve Bay and Mas Dojiri have expressed their willingness to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair for another two-year term. Wang asked for floor nominations and there was none. The motion to re-elect Steve Bay and Mas Dojiri was approved. Moved by: John Dorsey. Seconded by Eric Stein.

5. Presentation and Review: The revised CMP habitat assessment indicator framework (Originally item #6 on the Agenda)

Karina Johnston recapped TAC recommendations from the last meeting and introduced the revised assessment indicator framework. Discussion on the revised framework followed. The following instructions were recommended to the follow-up workgroup meetings for developing habitat-specific indicators in the revised framework:

- Keep in mind that the goal of the CMP is to inform State of the Bay Report and to evaluate the success of BRP management actions over time.
- Each indicator should inform either extent, condition, function, and/or process.
- The habitat extent category should be consistent across each habitat.
- For biological/ecological condition: Use indexes when possible to help reduce the number of discrete indicators. Prioritize the top 5 based on the individual characteristics of each habitat.
- Limit number of stressor indicators to 5: If applicable, prioritize the stressors categorically related to landscape modification, hydromodification, nutrients, toxic chemicals, and invasive species.
- Metrics should inform the magnitude and exposure of that stressor indicator.
- For development of indicators in the climate change vulnerability category, each workgroup is recommended to go through the following steps:
 1. Identify, confirm, and prioritize major types of climate change stressors.
 2. Identify what should be measured to demonstrate impact of those stressors on the habitat.
 3. Identify what should be measured at a habitat-specific level or through regional modeling/monitoring.

6. Presentation and Discussion: Update of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) Revision process and integration of the BRP and the Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP) (Originally item #5 on the Agenda)

Karina Johnston introduced the components of the BRP and the phases of revision process. Johnston went through 2013 BRP goals, presented draft goals for the 2019 BRP, and pointed out that many actions will fit multiple goals. Johnston also pointed out that new BRP structure will tie actions to long-term environmental outcomes.

Discussion on the new BRP goals and performance metrics followed. New draft BRP goals recommended by the TAC are:

1. Protect, enhance, and improve key ecosystems of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds

2. Improve water availability
3. Improve water quality
4. Enhance socioeconomic benefits to the public
5. Enhance public engagement and education
6. Mitigate impacts and increase resiliency to climate change
7. Improve monitoring and ability to assess effectiveness of management actions

It was also recommended and agreed that the list of revised goals be sent to members after the meeting to further solicit input focused on the answers to three questions:

- 1) Is anything glaringly missing?
- 2) Should we not be tackling any of these?
- 3) Are there language refinements that we should incorporate?

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.